

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SS-20 NSC-07 RSC-01

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APPROVED BY ARA-LA/CAR:JRBURKE

LA/DR:JRBREEN

OPA:GDWALLACE

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

7L ACTIONLA 16 INFO PA PPC 4 EXSEC CHRON 2 27P

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P 022318Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: HARPER'S ARTICLE ON AMBASSADOR DEROULET

1. IN ITS OCTOBER ,974 ISSUE HARPER'S MAGAZINE ALLEGES THAT U.S. AMBASSADOR VINCENT DEROULET, IN SUPPORT OF FORMER PRIME MINISTER HUGH SHEARER, ARRANGED TO HAVE A \$20 MILLION AID LOAN ANNOUNCED JUST BEFORE THE FEBRUARY 1972 JAMAICAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION. IF YOU RECEIVE INQUIRIES ABOUT THIS STATEMENT, YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW UPON THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE IN FORMULATING YOUR RESPONSE:

AID AUTHORIZED TWO \$10 MILLION DEVELOPMENTAL LOANS TO JAMAICA IN JUNE 1971, SOME EIGHT MONTHS BEFORE THE ELECTION IN WHICH PRIME MINISTER MICHAEL MANLEY'S PARTY WON POWER. THESE TWO LOANS, FOR RURAL FEEDER ROADS CONSTRUCTION AND MIDDLE INCOME HOUSING, WERE PART OF AN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECOMMENDED BY A U.S. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION WHICH VISITED JAMAICA IN LATE 1970. THE COMMISSION GREW OUT OF A REQUEST FOR AID WHICH FORMER PRIME MINISTER

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SHEARER MADE OF PRESIDENT NIXON AT AN INFORMAL MEETING IN

AUGUST OF THAT YEAR. A THIRD LOAN FOR FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT, ALSO RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMISSION, WAS AUTHORIZED IN JUNE 1973. THESE LOANS HAVE BEEN ENTHUSIASTICALLY ACCEPTED AND VIGOROUSLY IMPLEMENTED BY THE PRESENT JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT. THERE WAS NO RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE LOAN PROGRAM AND THE FEBRUARY 1972 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MAGAZINES, AMBASSADORS, ELECTION INTERFERENCE, DEVELOPMENT LOANS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE217675
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LA/CAR:RWHUDDLESTON:JANET
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740279-0136
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741078/aaaacopz.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 SEP 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HARPER'S ARTICLE ON AMBASSADOR DEROULET
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, EAID, JM, US, HARPERS, (DEROULET, VINCENT), (SHEARER, HUGH)
To: KINGSTON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005